

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission

---

ITEM

8

DECISION

TOPIC

Agreement with Louisa Soil and Water Conservation District

---

The Commission is requested to approve an amendment to an agreement among the Department and the Louisa Soil and Water Conservation District. The primary purpose of this amendment agreement is to extend the funding for person for an additional year to work with private landowners utilizing best management practices to restore and enhance wetlands through the use of programs such as the Wetland Reserve Program and the Emergency Watershed Program, and the Conservation Reserve Program along the Lower Cedar and Iowa Rivers in Louisa, Muscatine, Washington, Johnson, and Cedar Counties.

This area is identified as a priority area in the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan and is also the first designated Reptile and Amphibian Conservation Area. The Wildlife Bureau has worked with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Lands Stewardship, Division of Soil Conservation to prioritize this area to fund a position.

The individual would not be an employee of the DNR but, instead, would be employed by the Louisa Soil and Water Conservation District and housed out of the Louisa USDA office.

The funding for the position will be 1/3 Wildlife Bureau (Trust Fund), 1/3 IDALS, and 1/3 NRCS (in-kind match of office space, vehicle, phones, secretarial support, internet, office supplies).

The total cost of the agreement to the DNR will be for \$33,000 (\$16,000 for the first year and \$17,000 for the second year – first year is already completed).

Dale Garner, Wildlife Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
February 12, 2009